

March 2, 2006

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Layton R. McCurdy, Chairman, and Members, Commission on Higher Education

FROM: Dr. Vermelle J. Johnson, Chairman, and Members, Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing

Consideration of Request for Amendment of License
Troy University, Troy, AL, at Sumter and Charleston to
add a B.S. in (1) Business Administration and (2) Criminal Justice

Background

Troy University (TU) <<http://www.troy.edu/>> requests approval of an amendment to its license to add programs leading to the B.S. degree in (1) Business Administration and (2) Criminal Justice to be offered in Sumter and Charleston. With the approval of the Commission and sufficient enrollments, classes will begin on March 13, 2006, in Sumter, and in the fall semester in Charleston. At its meeting on May 2, 2002, the Commission approved initial licensure for Troy to open locations in Sumter and Charleston; at its meeting on November 7, 2002, the Commission approved an additional location at Greer. Those approvals are to offer graduate programs. The institution has not yet begun classes in Charleston or Greer.

At its meeting on May 1, 2003, CHE approved an amendment for Troy to offer a program leading to the B.S. in Management (B.S.M.) at Bosch Braking Systems in Sumter. Enrollment was limited to employees of Bosch, other employees of Sumter Industrial Park businesses, and employees of Caterpillar, Inc. Troy has taught-out students who were enrolled at Bosch; enrollments declined because of the downsizing of Bosch at Sumter which is projected to cease operations in 2008. The request in 2003 to offer the program leading to the B.S.M. also asked for authorization to offer the program at the downtown Sumter location. Because of objections raised by USC-Sumter officials on the basis of the quality of the program, lack of library resources, lack of AACSB accreditation, and competition with the USC-Aiken at USC-Sumter program leading to

the B.S. in Business Administration, the Commission deferred action and asked that Troy address the issues of quality and resources. Troy chose to withdraw its application for approval to offer the undergraduate program at the downtown Sumter location. It is now again seeking approval to offer two undergraduate programs in downtown Sumter and in Charleston. In addition to the business program USC-Aiken offers at USC-Sumter, Saint Leo University and Embry-Riddle Aviation University also have undergraduate programs at Shaw Air Force Base. Saint Leo University has submitted to the Commission notification that it intends to apply for licensure to offer in Sumter programs leading to the Associate of Arts degree and the Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration, Human Resources Administration, Criminal Justice, and Computer Information Systems.

Dr. Les Carpenter, USC-Sumter dean, addressed the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing at its February 2, 2006, meeting concerning Troy's proposal. He commended Troy for upgrading the library resources for off-campus students and for the progress of Troy toward gaining AACSB accreditation. He encouraged the Commission to seek amendment to the licensing regulations to require specialized accreditation. Dr. Carpenter announced that USC-Sumter initiated a \$35.00 annual fee for non-USC-Sumter students. This is a violation of the Commission-brokered statewide academic library agreement that permits all faculty, staff, and students at Bob Jones, all South Carolina independent colleges and universities, and all two- and four-year public institutions of higher education to use all other libraries/collections (with some restrictions, e.g., no rare books circulate, etc.) free of charge as long as they have a statewide library card. Despite similar competition in other communities, no other institution has seen fit to violate the statewide agreement.

The licensing authority, in this case CHE, serves as a local advocate for students who enroll in the institutions to ensure that students are not subjected to predatory or other unethical practices and to ensure a "truth in advertising" integrity to what is proposed and what is delivered.

The primary purpose of licensing is consumer protection, not protection of existing public or private state institutions or the prevention of duplication. Licensure indicates that minimum standards have been met. The licensing standards in many ways are closely aligned with SACS accreditation standards.

Duplication and competition issues are considerations for programs offered at public institutions because of the responsibility of investing South Carolina tax dollars; however, the Sherman Antitrust Act of July 2, 1890, 26 Stat. 209, as amended, 15 U.S.C., declares that "Every contract, combination in the form of trust or otherwise, or conspiracy, in restraint of trade or commerce among the several States..." is illegal. The U.S. Congress passed an amendment to The Clayton Antitrust Act, 1914, to strengthen, clarify, and supplement the Sherman Antitrust Act. Antitrust laws are intended to ensure

open and fair competition by preventing persons or entities from engaging in monopolistic conduct or anticompetitive conspiracies, thereby ensuring that consumers have access to the best mix of goods and services for the best possible price. Federal antitrust laws prohibit “monopolization, attempted monopolization” and contracts, combinations and conspiracies in restraint of trade.

Thus, the analysis that follows focuses on whether or not the proposed programs meet the minimum standards of South Carolina’s licensing statute and regulations. If the findings are positive, then licensure is recommended; if the findings are negative, then licensure is not recommended.

Summary

Established in 1887 as the Troy Normal School, Troy University has developed into a worldwide educational system now serving approximately 18,000 students. It is a non-profit, public institution. The off-campus programs are offered at approximately 60 military installations and teaching sites located in 13 countries and 17 states, and four campuses in Alabama. The system now offers more than 70 associate’s, bachelor’s, master’s, and education specialist degrees. The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) accredits Troy. The Sorrell College of Business holds specialized accreditation for its baccalaureate business programs and Master of Business Administration from the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP). ACBSP is recognized by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). The College of Business is actively completing the pre-application process required to apply for certification of the AACSB. Pending no impasse problems in meeting the pre-application requirements, Troy plans to submit its application at the beginning of its academic year in August 2007. None of the business or accounting programs offered at the licensing-exempt independent private institutions in the state are AACSB accredited. Specialized programmatic accreditation is not a criterion for licensure under current licensing regulations.

Troy University offers education programs to the full-time employed working adult population who find it difficult, if not impossible, to further their educations through the traditional college setting. Most Troy University students are “non-traditional.” They tend to be older and have family and outside commitments. These individuals find it difficult to acquire advanced education during the typical day class. These same students are interested in an accelerated program where they have some flexibility in choosing evening, weekend, and on-line formats.

Troy makes available sufficient learning resources to support the courses and degrees offered. Each student receives a comprehensive library resource book that describes the procedures to access Troy’s on-line resources, interlibrary loan, local

library support, Internet hints, computer safeguards, and directions on citations. Library services are provided through local and other resources. The TU Library System has subscriptions to nearly 70 databases that offer remote access. Databases to which Troy University subscribes or creates student access include:

Infotrac Web or Gale Databases: Health Reference Center, Expanded Academic ASAP, General Business File ASAP, Associations Unlimited, Computer Database, General Reference Center Gold, Informe, Business Company Resource Center, Legaltrac, One File, Literature Resource Center (including MLA International Bibliography, Scribner Writer's Series, and Twayne Author's Series), and Biography and Genealogy master Index; Encyclopedia Britannica: Encyclopedia Britannica, Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary; LexisNexis: Academic Universe, Statistical Universe, Current Issues; ProQuest Direct: CINAHL (Current Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature), ABI Inform Global, CJPI (Criminal Justice Periodical Index), ProQuest Nursing Journals, ProQuest Psychology Journals, ProQuest Newspapers, Research Library Complete; EBSCO Host: Academic Search Premier, Business Source Premier, ERIC (connects to EDRS for some full text), MasterFile Premier, Newspaper Source, Professional Development Collection (education), Mas Ultra – School Edition, Vocational Search, Health Source – Consumer Edition, Health Source – Nursing/Academic Edition, Clinical Pharmacology (dictionary), Alternate Health Watch, Funk and Wagnall's New World Encyclopedia, Searchasaurus (elementary level), Psychinfo 1887, Psychology & Behavioral Sciences, PsychArticles, Sport Discus, Regional Business News, World History Full Text, Military and Government Collection; NetLibrary (more than 20,000 full text electronic book titles - the books range from scholarly to more popular titles on a variety of subject); SIRSI: SIRSI Knowledge Source, SIRSI Discoverer, SIRSI Renaissance Humanities (the Main Campus library has the SIRSI automation system, which in its second phase will make it possible for all Southeast sites to access the Troy University System Library Catalog via Internet. Additional data bases are added as the system is developing. A catalog feature of the SIRSI allows University College sites to access the library catalog); LitFinder: Essay Finder, Poem Finder, Story Finder; Facts on File – African Amer. History and Culture; Columbia Granger's World of Poetry; College Source On-Line; North American Women Letters and Diaries; Bio-One; MathSciNet; Wiley Interscience; Emerald American Chemical Society Web; AccessScience; GPO Access: Thomas: ABC-Clio: American: History and Life, Historical Abstracts; AskEric; PubMed; Grateful Med; Bowker Publishing – Books in Print with Reviews.

The Troy Southeast Regional office has a web site which links to the Troy Main Campus, faculty web sites, and the on-line library. Troy uploads syllabi and handouts to the Southeast Regional web site. The Sumter County Library offers a collection of over 110,000 books, journals, and media. The reference collection consists of over 3,500 titles. This library is available to non-residents for \$5 per year. The USC-Sumter library has an excellent collection of college materials.

Troy teaches the CHE-approved graduate degree programs in 2,540 square feet of space at 12 West Liberty Street, leased from the City of Sumter. The facility includes space for offices, conference rooms, classrooms, student areas, computer labs, and a student resource center. Troy officials are negotiating for commercial space in Charleston.

Courses will be offered over 10-week terms, five semesters per year. Classes will be taught in intensive weekend classes, classes once per week, and internet on-line distance education. Courses taught on weekends will be limited to those approved for

weekend teaching by the director in consultation with faculty. TU officials project enrolling 20 students in each term for a total of 100 at each location in the first year. Tuition at the undergraduate level is \$489 for each three-semester-hour course.

Faculty who teach in the programs must meet the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education licensing requirement that an appropriate number of faculty members hold terminal degrees, usually an earned doctorate, and that all others should hold master's degrees with at least 18 graduate semester hours in the teaching discipline, or a master's degree with a major in the teaching discipline. TU also requires that each faculty member have experience teaching at the college level. The institution will use a combination of core and adjunct faculty with a minimum of 25 percent of each program taught by full-time faculty members.

High school graduates may be admitted as freshmen with a minimum 2.0 GPA, an ACT composite score of 18, or an SAT composite score of 870. Applicants who are 21 years of age or older are not required to submit ACT/SAT scores but must have earned a high school diploma or GED.

Twenty-five percent of the program must be earned at TU and a minimum of 50 percent of the program hours must be on a senior college level.

The following table shows the curriculum content for the program leading to the B.S. in Business Administration.

	Content	Credit Hours
General Education	English/Literature, Humanities and Fine Arts, Biology and Math, History, Economics, University Orientation and Introduction to Computer Applications	48
Business Administration Core	Accounting, Business Communications, Managerial Finance, Information Systems, Legal Environment, Management, Marketing	42
Management	Management: Organizational Behavior, HRM, Management, Labor Law, Business and Society, Technology, Staffing, Performance Appraisal and Compensation, TQM, Business Logistics, Operations Research	30
	Total Credit Hours	120

The following table shows the curriculum content for the program leading to the B.S. in Criminal Justice.

	Content	Credit Hours
General Education	English/Literature, Humanities and Fine Arts, Biology and Math, History, Economics, University Orientation and Introduction to Computer Applications	48
Criminal Justice Major	Criminal Justice, Law Enforcement, Corrections, Law and Criminal Procedure, Criminology, Constitutional Law, Social Scientific Inquiry; 12 additional hours of advanced or upper level CJ courses	36
Minor	Upper-level courses within an elected discipline. Troy will limit the courses it offers to fill the minor requirement to those germane to criminal justice.	18
	Electives	18
	Total Credit Hours	120

The officials of Troy University provided letters of support of its proposal to offer programs leading to undergraduate degrees from Phil Leventis, State Senator from District #35; Joseph T. McElveen, Jr., Mayor of the City of Sumter; Stacey Fulwood, Human Resources Manager at Caterpillar Sumter Hydraulics Facility; and Anthony Dennis, Sheriff of Sumter County.

In summary, the staff analysis finds that the proposed programs and the institution meet the requirements of the licensing statute and regulations.

Recommendation

The Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing recommends that the Commission approve an amendment to the license of Troy University which would allow Troy University to offer in Sumter and Charleston the programs leading to the Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and the Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice.